

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 NEAE-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-03 TRSE-00 USIA-15

NSC-07 SCI-06 OMB-01 SS-20 AID-20 L-03 AGR-20 PRS-01

PA-04 DRC-01 /141 W

----- 104228

P R 271315Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3389

INFO AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ANKARA 2293

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, TU

SUBJECT: GERMINATION PROGRAM FOR OPIUM POPPY SEEDS

REF: (A) ANKARA 1794; (B) ANKARA 2089

1. AS DEPT KNOWS, GOT HAS ASSURED US THAT NO DECISION ON RESCINDING POPPY BAN WILL BE TAKEN WITHOUT FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH US AND THAT IN ANY CASE THERE WILL BE NO PLANTING BEFORE FALL SEASON. DEPT WILL RECALL ALSO, HOWEVER, THAT MIN OF AGRICULTURE OZAL ANNOUNCED ON MARCH 9 THAT, DURING MARCH, MINISTRY WOULD START PLANTING OPIUM POPPIES ON EXPERIMENT STATIONS AND NURSERIES BECAUSE EXISTING SEEDS WERE LOSING GERMINATION (REF A). TURKISH PRESS MARCH 25 REPORTED STATEMENT BY A MIN AGRICULTURE OFFICIAL THAT PLANTING HAS STARTED IN SIX REGIONS ON AREAS TALLING 180 DECARES (ABOUT 45 ACRES).

2. BREAKDOWN, ACCORDING TO NEWSPAPERS, IS AS FOLLOWS:

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(1) AFYON EXPERIMENT STATION (NEAR TOWN OF AFYON)- 30 DECARES.

(2) CAL EXPERIMENT STATION (DENIZLI PROVINCE) - 20 DECARES.

(3) CIVRIL VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL (DENIZLI PROVINCE)
10 DECARES.

(4) ACIPAYAM STATE FARM (DENIZLI PROVINCE) - 100 DECARES.

(5) EGRIDIR VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL (ISPARTA PROVINCE) -
10 DECARES.

(6) KONUKLAR STATE FARM (NORTH OF TOWN OF KONYA) -
10 DECARES.

3. AG ATTACHE ESTIMATES THIS PROGRAM COULD PRODUCE APPROX
15 TONS OF SEED, SUFFICIENT TO PLANT AN ESTIMATED 60,000
DECRES OF POPPIES (ABOUT 15,000 ACRES). WERE THE GOT
TO PROCEED WITH FALL PLANTING OF THE 200,000 DECARES MENTIONED
TO MILLIYET MARCH 20 BY OZAL (REF B) - DESPITE THE GOT'S
SUBSEQUENT DENIALS OF SUCH PLANS - THE CURRENT SEED CROP
WOULD BE INADEQUATE OF ITSELF. HOWEVER, OUR OBSERVATIONS OF
FARMERS' SEED STOCKS LEAD US TO BELIEVE THAT THEY HAVE ENOUGH
VIABLE SEED ON HAND TO MAKE UP THE DIFFERENCE. (GOVERNMENT
ITSELF DOES NOT ORDINARILY STOCK POPPY SEED.)
MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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30 JUN 2005

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